

MEMO

DATE: February 2, 2006
TO: Regional Council
FROM: Don Rhodes (x840)
SUBJECT: 2006 Southern California Consensus Program

SUMMARY:

The 2006 Southern California Consensus Program is scheduled for February 7th and 8th in Washington, D.C. Representatives from all six County Transportation Commissions will be participating in the trip, which will focus mainly on goods movement and on seeking a united voice from our Congressional delegation.

Meetings will begin at 9am on Tuesday, February 7th with an orientation for participants and an open Congressional staff meeting, where we hope to have representatives from each delegate's office. We will be participating in meetings with USDOT and other federal agencies in the afternoon. On Wednesday, February 8th we will focus our efforts on Capitol Hill. Congressional office visits are being scheduled throughout the day on the 8th.

This year we will be sending an exciting and visual message through images, high quality handouts and a model freight truck containing the message "Congressional Convoy: Faster Freight, Cleaner Air". We hope to grab their attention and focus them on the needs of goods movement in southern California. We will also be discussing the upcoming reauthorization of SAFETEA-LU and the need to continue allowing innovative finance tools and funding equity for states and regions.

BACKGROUND:

SCAG has hosted several consensus trips in the past few years. We are continuing that tradition in 2006.